GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3234
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
ALLOCATIONS OF FUNDS FOR SCs/STs
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recently issued directions to all Central Ministries and State Government to allocate funds for SCs and STs as per their population as reported in the Hindustan Times dated January 24, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Governments thereto;

(c) whether the mid term appraisal of the Tenth Plan has noted that several Central Ministries/Departments have not earmarked adequate funds for SCs and STs as per their share in population;

(d) if so, the details of such Ministries/Departments;

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) the amount likely to be earmarked for the welfare of SCs and STs for the year 2007- 08; and

(g) the various welfare schemes proposed to be taken up along with the nodal agencies for monitoring the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V.RAJASEKHARAN)

(a): Yes, Sir. It is a fact that Planning Commission has issued guidelines to all the concerned Central Ministries/Departments on 13.12.2006 and State Governments/UT Administrations on 31.10.2005 to allocate funds for SCs and STs towards Scheduled Castes Sub-plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-plan (TSP) as per their population percentage in the Centre and in the States/UTs respectively.

(b): The guidelines inter-alia stipulate that:
(i) Earmarking of funds under SCSP/TSP from the State /UT; Central Ministry/Department out of total Plan outlay at least in the proportion of SC and ST population of the State/UT, country respectively for the welfare development of SCs and STs and
(ii) Placing the funds earmarked for SCSP/TSP under separate budget head/sub-head for implementing SCSP and TSP so as to make it non- divertible. Most of the States/UTs have adhered to the guidelines for formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCSP and TSP while allocating funds under SCSP and TSP as per the percentage of SC and ST population in the States/UTs. 14 States/UTs have not earmarked funds under SCSP and TSP as per the SC and ST population in the State/UT for Annual Plan 2006-07.

(c): Yes, Sir. It is a fact that Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan has revealed that many of the Ministries and Departments have not earmarked adequate funds for SCs/STs as per their share in population.

(d): Only 14 Central Ministries/Departments have earmarked funds under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and 25 Central Ministries towards the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP).

(e): As a corrective measure, revised guidelines have been issued by the Planning Commission on 13th December 2006 to the Central Ministries and Departments for formulation, implementation and monitoring SCSP and TSP.

(f): The earmarked allocation for the States/UTs, Central Ministries/Departments for the welfare of SCs and STs for Annual Plan 2007-08 is under finalisation.

(g): The guidelines and additional guidelines issued by the Planning Commission to States/UTS and Central Ministries for formulation, implementation and monitoring of SCSP and TSP have suggested schemes for welfare and development of SCs and STs under various sectors to be taken up on priority basis. As per the guidelines it is also mandatory to constitute a Monitoring Committee at the State, District and Block Level for SCSP and TSP.